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MONTHLY NOTICES

OF THE

ROYAL ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY.

Vol. LIII. June 9, 1893. No. 8

Captain W. de W. Abney, C.B., R.E., D.C.L., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

Hedley Robert Beasley, Milldown School, Blandford, Dorset;
Edwin Bailey Elliott, M.A., F.R.S., Waynflete Professor of Pure Mathematics, Oxford;
Arthur E. Kennelly, Edison's Laboratory, Orange, New Jersey, U.S.A.;
Benjamin Theophilus Moore, M.A., Longwood, Bexley, Kent;
Arthur A. Rambaut, D.Sc., Royal Astronomer of Ireland, Observatory, Dunsink, co. Dublin;
Frederick Lumb Wanklyn, Grand Trunk Railway Company, Montreal, Canada,

were balloted for and duly elected Fellows of the Society.

The following candidates were proposed for election as Fellows of the Society, the names of the proposers from personal knowledge being appended:—

Edmond Herbert Hills, Captain R.E., 1 Devonshire Place, W. (proposed by Capt. W. de W. Abney);
Charles Herbert Edmund Rea, 223 Norwood Road, Herne Hill, S.E. (proposed by W. S. B. Woolhouse);
William Shackleton, Computer to the Solar Physics Committee, Royal College of Science, South Kensington, S.W. (proposed by J. Norman Lockyer).

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Fifty-nine presents were announced as having been received since the last meeting, including, amongst others,

A. A. Michelson, On the application of interference methods to spectroscopic measurement, presented by the author; Rev. S. Kinns, Graven in the Rock, presented by the author; Photographs of the Lick Observatory, presented by the Observatory.

Preliminary Report of the Joint Solar Eclipse Committee of the Royal Society, the Royal Astronomical Society, and the Solar Physics Committee on the Observations of the Solar Eclipse of 1893 *April* 16. By A. A. Common, LL.D., F.R.S., Secretary to the Joint Solar Eclipse Committee.

Abstract.

The Joint Committee have requested me to make the following brief report on the observations of the eclipse. This will be followed shortly by a more complete report.

The Joint Committee was formed early in 1892; a grant of money was obtained from the Government Grant Fund of the Royal Society, and preparations were at once begun. After due consideration it was decided to send out two observing expeditions, one to Fundium, on the Salum River, in Senegambia, and one to Pará-Curu, in the Province of Ceará, in the northern part of Brazil. With the exception of the work undertaken by Professor Thorpe, the whole of the observations were photographic. Three classes of work were undertaken at each station.

1st. Photographs of the Corona, in continuation of a long and very complete series already taken with the "Abney" lens, and similar photographs on three times the scale, by means of a negative enlarging lens by Dallmeyer.

2nd. Photographs of the surroundings of the Sun by means of a prism in front of the object-glass. (Prismatic camera.)

3rd. Photographs of the spectrum of the Corona by slit spectroscopes.

The West African Expedition was placed in charge of Professor Thorpe, F.R.S. Professor Thorpe, assisted by Mr. Gray and Mr. Forbes, undertook the determination of the photometric intensity of the coronal light by the method he used at the Solar Eclipse of 1886 in Granada. A complete and satisfactory series of observations was made.

Mr. A. Fowler undertook the prismatic camera observations, using a 6-inch telescope, lent by Mr. Lockyer, with a large prism in front of the object-glass. Mr. Fowler took six plates before and after totality, and fifteen during totality. The photographs are considered by Mr. Lockyer, at whose wish this investigation was made, to be of very great value.

Sergeant Kearney, R.E., had charge of the coronagraph.

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